

Dear Families,

Community Meetings

This week, I visited all year groups during their Community Meetings to reinforce our standards and the principles of The SJT Way. I explained why we call these gatherings *Community Meetings* rather than assemblies: the name reflects that we all belong to one community.

Our shared goal is clear - we want our students to create beautiful work, show respect, and demonstrate kindness. I also made it clear that when students fail to uphold our values, we will not tolerate attempts to resolve issues through verbal or physical confrontation.

Many year groups are now embracing the purpose of these meetings: taking a stand on issues they want to change, expressing gratitude to peers and staff, and offering apologies for actions they regret. This approach to resolving disputes and de-escalating emotions is an essential life skill, especially in today's world where social media often fuels conflict and division.

🎄 Christmas Card Competition

Students across the school have been busy getting creative for our annual Christmas Card Competition. We were absolutely overwhelmed by the number of entries this year - a huge well done to every student who took part. The effort, imagination and festive spirit on display have been fantastic.

I will be selecting the SJT winner, and their design will then be submitted to the Trust's overall Christmas Card Competition, where entries from all schools will be considered. We look forward to sharing the winning design with you in next weeks bulletin.

🏆 Annual Awards Evening – Monday 15th December 2025

On Monday, students who attended SJT in Year 11 and 13 of the academic year 2024/25, have been invited with their families to attend the SJT Annual Awards and Achievement event. We are looking forward to celebrating their achievements and hearing from our guest speaker Counsellor Gregory Ebbs.

🎄 Annual Christmas Concert – Tuesday 16th December 2025

We're excited to welcome all families to our annual Christmas concert this Tuesday. It's always a lovely way to come together, celebrate the season, and enjoy the fantastic work the children have been doing.

Tickets will be available on the door at **£3 for adults** and **£2 for children (under 16)**.

We'd love to see as many of you as possible joining in the festivities and supporting the event. It's set to be a wonderful evening!

🍽️ Christmas Lunch – Wednesday 17th December 2025

Our school Christmas lunch will take place on Wednesday, 17th December 2025 and will cost the same as our current meal deals £2.50. Details on how to reserve a Christmas dinner, can be found [here](#).

🎅 Christmas Jumper Day – Wednesday 17th December 2025

We're excited to hold our Christmas Jumper Day on Wednesday 17th December to raise money for our six House charities.

Students can wear a festive jumper over their normal school uniform and bring a suggested £1 donation, which will be collected during Academic Monitoring (AM)/Crew time.

To help make the day inclusive, we'd welcome any donations of good-quality Christmas jumpers. If you're able to contribute, please send them into school on Monday 15th December so that students who need one can collect a jumper from Reception in the week before the event. Thank you for your support.

🌟 End of Term Enrichment Activities

As we approach the end of term, students across all year groups are taking part in a range of enrichment activities designed to celebrate their hard work and finish the year on a positive note.

Next week, students in Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 have the opportunity to attend off-site events.

- Year 8 will be heading to Jump In, Shrewsbury.
- Year 9 will visit Inflata Nation followed by time at Telford Shopping Centre.
- Years 10 and 11 will enjoy a trip to the Trafford Centre.

Today, Year 7 enjoyed a festive visit to the pantomime to watch Cinderella.

For students remaining in school, timetables have been adapted to create bespoke enrichment days.

Year 7, for example, spent Periods 3 and 4 watching Christmas films and enjoyed festive crafts in Period 5.

Students in Years 8–11 who were not eligible to attend their trip will take part in refocus intervention workshops to help them make a positive start to the New Year. Those who chose not to attend the trip will enjoy Christmas films, crafts, or a festive sing-along in school.



Mr Tim Stonall

Timetable w/c Monday 15th December 2025 – Week B Headteacher

📅 Reverse Advent Calendar

We are still collecting donations for our Reverse Advent Calendar in support of the Whitchurch Trussell Trust Foodbank. Each year, staff, students and families at SJT give generously, and together we make a real difference to our local community. Sadly, more and more people are relying on foodbanks, and as a school we want to do all we can to help.

We know times are challenging for many, so please be assured this is not mandatory. However, if you are able to donate an item, we would be very grateful. Donations can be brought into school before Thursday 18th December. For details of items most in demand, please click [here](#).

If you know someone who would benefit from a food parcel, please contact Whitchurch Foodbank directly.

🍰 Educake Leaders of the Week

We're delighted to celebrate the hard work and dedication of our students on Educake, our Science learning platform. Each week, we highlight the top question-answers across the year groups - and this week's leaders have truly impressed us!

Year 7: Cristian in 7.Alderford.32 – 427 questions answered
Year 8: Eve in 8.Brownmoss.31 – 172 questions answered
Year 9: Oliver in 9.Brownmoss.30 – 253 questions answered
Year 10: Verity in 10.Redbrook.29 – 162 questions answered
Year 11: Eleanor in 11.Redbrook.28 – 265 questions answered

❄️ HAF Christmas/ Winter Programme

The 4All Foundation are collaborating with local schools, voluntary and community organisations providers to run an exciting holiday programme this Winter, Shropshire HAF (Holiday Activities and Food). From 20th December 2025 to 5th January 2026, eligible children and young people are invited to take part in a range of fun activities, happening at across the county.

For more information for the Winter HAF, click here: [Holidays and food programme - what's on for winter 2025](#).

👥 Tilstock Youth Club

Did you know the 4All Foundation runs a fantastic youth club at Tilstock Primary School every Friday from 5pm to 6:15pm? It's a great way for students between 7-13 years old to unwind, make friends, and enjoy a variety of activities in a safe, welcoming space.

For more information, regarding the youth club, please click [here](#).

🍰 Year 11 Cake Sale

A big congratulations to our Year 11 students Emma and Georgia, who showed fantastic initiative last week by organising a cake sale and Christmas hamper raffle to support them with their fundraising for the Kenya 2026 expedition with Camps International.

Thanks to their efforts - and the generosity of everyone who got involved - they raised an impressive £200 toward their trip. A brilliant achievement and a great example of what determination (and a few cakes!) can do. Well done to both of them!

We'd also like to congratulate Theo in 8.Ossmere.31, who was the lucky winner of the Christmas hamper. Enjoy your prize!



The Shore – Mrs Lewis

🇬🇧 This Wednesday afternoon we invited in our next Guest speaker to talk about their career. Sally Ann Rowland is an ex student of mine who kindly agreed to come in and discuss her career as a Paramedic. She told the year 7's all about the highs of working in this field and also the gruesome lows. Sally Ann discussed what inspired her to get into her chosen career and what training she had to do in order to get there. The students were full of interesting and valuable questions that Sally Ann was able to answer really showing her love of being a paramedic. Another inspiring afternoon.



🎭 We are very excited to attend the Pantomime on Friday of this week and enjoy this festive treat of fun and laughter.

🏠 Upcoming we are all looking forward to lots of fun activities next week including our next house competition of Decorate the Crew Door. Each crew has been challenged to decorate their crew room door in a festive manner. The doors will then be judged on Thursday morning by Miss Brinkworth and myself. Can't wait to see the result!

The Harbour – Mr Hawke

🏀 This week in The Harbour, students have been busy showcasing their teamwork and competitive spirit in our House competitions. Year 8 took to the football pitch, with Alderford and Ossmere emerging as joint winners. Year 9 battled it out in dodgeball. A huge well done to everyone who took part - it was fantastic to see achievement through caring in action, with students showing determination, encouragement and fair play throughout.

🇬🇧 Looking ahead to next week, we're excited to round off a brilliant term with a series of celebrations. Our rewards trips to Jump In and Inflata Nation will give students a well-earned chance to have fun together, followed by our Crew Award afternoon on Wednesday. We'll finish the term with our annual Christmas Rewards Community Meeting, a lovely opportunity to come together before the holidays.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We're proud of everything our students have achieved this term and look forward to ending it on a high.

Student Spotlight

🎹 A huge congratulations to Thomas in 9.Ossmere.30, who has been awarded a Merit in his Grade 1 piano exam. This is a fantastic achievement and a reflection of his hard work and dedication. Well done, Thomas - we're very proud of you!

The Quay and Sixth Form – Mrs Elms

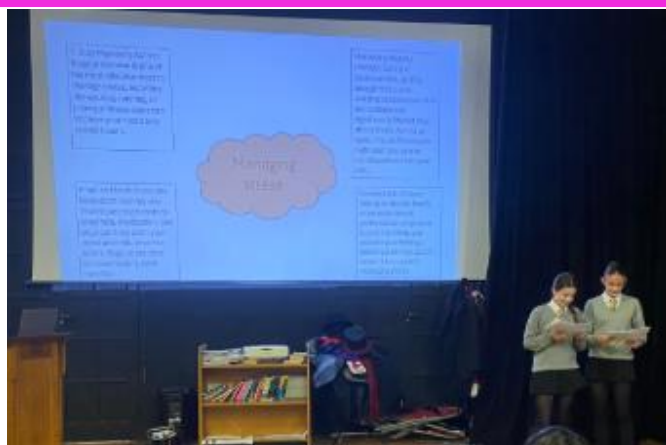
🗨️ Year 10 have been working collaboratively in their crews on the Mind Matters project since the start of this half term. Yesterday afternoon during Crew time they came together to present their projects to the rest of the year group.

👏 Huge congratulations to all students for both the quality and sheer volume of their work. Those who spoke were a real credit to themselves and to SJT - special mention to Isabel S-S and Sofia S, who captivated their audience with confidence and energy. It was a wonderful afternoon, showcasing creativity, commitment, and teamwork.

🌟 Special recognition also goes to the outstanding Year 10 Crew Leaders, whose dedication and guidance have been instrumental throughout the project.

📄 Year 11 received their mock exam results yesterday and this was followed up with positive conversations during Year 11 Keeping in Touch (KiT) evening. Students will be given time to reflect on their grades and set goals for their next set of mock exams.

🏠 The Quay are looking forward to our rewards trip to Trafford Centre on Thursday. Students will receive an assembly on Monday outlining the full details.



On Monday, our Year 12 Geography students visited Preston Montford Field Studies Centre for a hands-on learning experience. They spent the day practicing primary data collection methods in preparation for their NEA, including:

- Measuring carbon storage in woodlands
- Exploring techniques to collect data on the water cycle

A fantastic opportunity to apply classroom knowledge in the field and develop essential skills for their coursework!



🎉 It was an absolute pleasure to host the Sixth Form Ball on Wednesday at Goldstone Hall. The atmosphere was warm and vibrant, and our students were a real credit to the school. This joint event between SJT and Grove was a fantastic opportunity for students to relax and enjoy each other's company after a busy, productive term.

A huge thank you to our Sixth Form teams at both schools for their superb organisation and hard work in making the evening unforgettable. And of course, thank you to the students for conducting themselves so brilliantly and making the night one to remember. We are incredibly proud of how our sixth formers continue to shine both academically and socially.



ABM Catering Menu – W/C Monday 15th December 2025 – Week 1

Our Spring Menu is located on our school website in the Family Information section under School Life. You can also click on the direct link here: [Family Information - School Meals](#)

Our Curriculum

At Sir John Talbot's, our curriculum reflects the values we live by - excellence, integrity, empathy, creativity, and equality. We use learning journeys to help students understand how each subject develops, so they can follow their progress with confidence and support. For more information, please click on the link here: [Our Curriculum - Sir John Talbot's](#)

📅 UPCOMING EVENTS

Click [here](#) to view our upcoming events. Events at a glance:

- 15th December – Year 9 rewards trip to Inflata Nation and Telford Shopping Centre
- 15th December – Awards evening 6pm-8pm
- 16th December – Year 8 rewards trip to Jump In, Shrewsbury
- 17th December – School choir carol singing in the community
- 17th December – Christmas jumper day & SJT Christmas lunch
- 18th December – Year 10 & 11 rewards trip to the Trafford Centre
- 19th December – Whole School assembly
- 19th December – End of Autumn term
- 5th January – Spring term commences

Click [here](#) to view our Term Dates.

📢 Stay in the Loop

Catch up on our latest news [here](#), or follow us on Facebook ([SirJohnTalbotsSchool](#)) for updates and celebrations.



For stories across our wider school community, visit [MarchesAcademyTrust](#).

